

16 May 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

SUBJECT: Meeting Concerning Development of Basic Intelligence
Officers Course

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1. Those present:

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2. [REDACTED] submitted a copy of the 14 weeks current schedule revised to include mapping and introduction to interviewing and an expansion of instruction on Communism as a proposal for committee consideration in the development of a basic course for new intelligence officers of the Agency.

3. The following elements of the course were discussed:

a. Language Training. It was decided that language training should be deleted from the curriculum, thereby reducing the over-all time required for the course from 14 to approximately 7 weeks.

b. Rapid Reading. No determination was reached concerning inclusion or deletion of rapid reading in this course.

c. General Subjects. This category includes such subjects as other U.S. intelligence services, and ONE and OIR. These subjects were discussed in light of their desirability from a student background point of view as opposed to their being considered essential to meet the requirements of all basic intelligence officers. While unanimity of opinion was not obtained from all members of the committee regarding those subjects in the current OTG schedule, the principle of reviewing subjects of the basic course with the criteria in mind was accepted and [REDACTED] agreed to develop a program for further consideration which would provide an indication of subjects considered to be requirements and those deemed to be

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desirable by members of the Office of Training (General).
This program, when completed, will be forwarded to [REDACTED]
for review and consideration by members of OTS

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4. The question of presenting a basic training course for intelligence officers for employees of both covert offices, as well as other employees of CIA was briefly discussed from the standpoint of security factors involved. It was considered unlikely that the covert offices would agree to intermingling of their personnel with other employees of the Agency, for obvious security reasons; however, the possibilities of conducting such a course for personnel in both the covert and other offices of CIA by running such courses concurrently in different locations using the same instructor staff, or by running courses in sequence for both categories was deemed a possibility.

5. The duration of the basic course in terms of numbers of weeks was discussed, and various possibilities were considered which would result in the minimum delay for covert office personnel entered in a basic course and continuing after the basic course in other courses offered by TR(S). It was pointed out by both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that the sponsoring offices frequently had operational requirements for personnel which precluded such personnel from spending more than 12 to 13 weeks in training. It is anticipated that this factor will prove significant in obtaining covert office acceptance of a basic intelligence course as an integral part of the present training cycle unless such a course will serve to reduce the time factor now required for conduct of the BOC.

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